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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 6055

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCH OCTOBER 29

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

SUMMARY: AT PERMREPS LUNCH ON OCT 29, AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES DISCUSSED THE SONNENFELDT/HARTMAN NAC BRIEFING ON THE SECRETARY'S MOSCOW VISIT, USAF AIRLIFT BRIEFING, NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY ANNUAL SESSION, MEETINGS OF NATO AMBASSADORS IN MOSCOW, SPC DISCUSSION ON DENTENTE, FORMAT OF AND ATTENDANCE AT DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL, AND OCTOBER 24 MEETING OF THE NAC WITH PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU. DISCUSSION ON NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY, AND ON SPC DISCUSSION OF DENTENTE REPORTED SEPTELS. END SUMMARY.

1. SONNENFELDT/HARTMAN NAC BRIEFING ON THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW.

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A. A/SYG PANSA, FOURTEEN AMBASSADORS AND CHARGE MCAULIFFE CAME TO THE OCTOBER 29 REGULAR WEEKLY PERMREPS LUNCH DIRECTLY FROM THE MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL AT WHICH COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AND ASST. SECRETARY HARTMAN CONSULTED

WITH THE ALLIES ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S OCTOBER 23-27 DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIET LEADERS IN MOSCOW. BUSCH (NORWAY) THE HOST, OPENED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT EVERYONE'S INTELLECTUAL APPETITE HAD BEEN GREATLY SHARPENED BY THE BRILLIANT PRESENTATION IN THE COUNCIL BY MESSRS. SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN. EVERYONE AGREED, ESPECIALLY THE DEAN (BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE) WHO WAS PARTICULARLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE DEPTH AND SCOPE OF THE U.S. PRESENTATION WHICH HE SAID ALMOST APPROACHED THE BRILLIANCE OF BRIEFINGS OF THE COUNCIL BY SECRETARY KISSINGER HIMSELF. AFTER DISCUSSING A NUMBER OF HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS, PERMREPS RETURNED TO PRAISE OF THE MORNING BRIEFING. MCAULIFFE RECALLED THE REMARKS OF COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NAC TO THE EFFECT THAT THE U.S. WOULD WELCOME DEBRIEFINGS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH OUR ALLIES OF MEETINGS BY ALLIED HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND ALLIED FOREIGN MINISTERS WITH THE SOVIETS. MCAULIFFE TRUSTED THAT THE PROMPT AND FULL ACCOUNT RENDERED BY MESSRS. SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN OF THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND BREZHNEV HAD MET WITH ALLIED APPROVAL AND WOULD PROVE BENEFICIAL TO UNDERSTANDING IN VARIOUS ALLIED CAPITALS. HE SAID THE U.S. FOR ITS PART WOULD WELCOME REPORTS IN THE COUNCIL BY ALLIED OFFICIALS OF SIMILAR RANK WHO HAD ACTUALLY PARTICIPATED IN COMPARABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP. THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR FIRST-HAND REPORTING

BY AN ACTUAL PARTICIPANT FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AND COLLOQUY WITH OTHER PERMREPS.

B. MCAULIFFE NOTED THAT AT THE SPECIAL NAC ON OCTOBER 24 IN HONOR OF PRIMIN TRUDEAU, A NUMBER OF ALLIES HAD STRESSED THEIR APPROVAL OF THE FACT THAT THE CANADIAN HEAD OF GOVERNMENT HAD PERSONALLY COME TO THE COUNCIL IN PERMANENT SESSION AND CONFERRED WITH ITS MEMBERS. MCAULIFFE EXPRESSED U.S. HOPE THAT OTHER ALLIED HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WHEN THEY VISIT BRUSSELS WOULD DO LIKEWISE. THE U.S. CHARGE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO PRESENTATIONS TO THE DPC WHICH ARE SCHEDULED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ON ANTI-ARMOUR TACTICS AND ON AIRLIFT CAPABILITIES. HE SAID THE CONFIDENTIAL

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U.S. WAS PLEASED TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH ALLIES AND TO SHARE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY AND MODERN TACTICS. THE U.S. IS AWARE THAT IT IS NOT THE SOLE REPOSITORY OF KNOWLEDGE ON SUCH SUBJECTS AND WE WOULD WELCOME SIMILAR EFFORTS BY ONE OR MORE OF THE ALLIES SINCE THIS IS ONE WAY TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING BOTH OF PERMREPS AND THROUGH THEM OF SENIOR OFFICIALS IN CAPITALS. IN THIS WAY TOP DECISION MAKERS CAN BE MADE AWARE OF THE NATURE OF CHANGES MODERNITY REQUIRES.

C. DE STAERCK SUPPORTED MCAULIFFE WITH ENTHUSIASM. HE RECALLED THE WORDS OF PAUL HENRI SPAAK WITH RESPECT TO THE DESIRABILITY OF CONTINUING AND IMPROVING ALLIED CONSULTATIONS. DE STAERCKE SAID THE CANADIANS AND NOW THE AMERICANS, THE TWO

NORTH AMERICAN ALLIES, HAVE SHOWN A FINE EXAMPLE TO THE EUROPEANS -- ONE WHICH THE LATTER SHOULD EMULATE. THERE WAS NO SUBSTITUTE, DE STAERCKE CONTINUED, FOR SUCH EXCHANGE WITH THE COUNCIL ITSELF, AS THE COUNCIL MEMBERS KNOW, HOW TO EXPLORE EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY OF THE THINKING OF ANYONE MAKING A PRESENTATION TO IT. THE SYG AND THE COUNCIL, HE WENT ON, UNDERSTAND THE ALLIANCE -- IN TERMS OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY, IN TERMS OF POLITICAL COHESION -- AS NO OTHER GROUP CAN.

D. FRG PERMREP KRAPF SAID HE WAS OF PRECISELY THE SAME MIND AND HE EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR THE VIEWS OF MCAULIFFE AND DE STAERCKE. KRAPF ALSO SAID HE HAD JUST SENT A TELEGRAM TO BONN URGING THAT A MEMBER OF THE FRG PARTY NOW IN MOSCOW WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT COME TO THE COUNCIL NEXT WEEK AND BRIEF IN THE SAME MANNER AS MESSRS. SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN. FRENCH PERMREP DE ROSE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THIS DISCUSSION.

2. USAF AIRLIFT BRIEFING. A NUMBER OF PERMREPS EXPRESSED DISMAY THAT THE USAF AIRLIFT BRIEFING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 13. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT ALL BUT ONE OF TWO OF THE PERMREPS PLAN TO BE IN LONDON FOR THE NAA ANNUAL SESSION THAT DAY. PERMREPS AGREED THAT THIS BRIEFING WAS MOST IMPORTANT AND INSISTED THAT IT BE SCHEDULED FOR THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 12 (TUESDAY) UNLESS THAT PRESENTED INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES (SEE USNATO 6006). THE DEAN AND A NUMBER OF OTHER PERMREPS JOINTED IN PROPOSING THAT THE BRIEFING BE GIVEN TO THE NAC RATHER THAN THE DPC. DE ROSE AND GREEK PERMREP THEODOROPoulos BOTH INDICATED THEY WOULD BE PLEASED

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IF THIS SWITCH WERE MADE SO THEY TOO COULD ATTEND THE BRIEFING.

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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

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3. MEETINGS OF NATO AMBASSADORS IN MOSCOW. AMBASSADOR ERALP (TURKEY) REFERRED TO A RECENT US SUGGESTION IN POLADS -- ONE WHICH HAD BEEN GREETED FAVORABLY BY A NUMBER OF ALLIES, -- THAT NATO AMBASSADORS IN MOSCOW AS EXPERTS ON THE SPOT COORDINATE AND WORK OUT A UNIFORM POSITION FOR DEALING WITH SOVIET DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL REGULATIONS.

(COMMENT: U.S. PROPOSAL SUGGESTED COORDINATION ON THIS MATTER BE MOVED FROM POLADS TO MOSCOW BUT DID NOT MENTION AMBASSADORIAL OR ANY OTHER LEVEL NOR DID THE U.S. PROPOSAL SPEAK OF WORKING OUT A UNIFORM POSITION END COMMENT).

ERALP SAID THAT THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW HAD JUST ADVISED HIM THAT THIS SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD SUGGESTION EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT NATO AMBASSADORS IN MOSCOW HAD ONLY RARELY MET TOGETHER IN THE LAST TWO YEARS. ERALP THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT AMBASSADOR FORD, THE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW AND DEAN OF THE MOSCOW DIPLOMATIC CORPS CONVOKE A MEETING OF NATO AMBASSADORS, PERHAPS AT LUNCHEON OR ON SOME OTHER OCCASION, CONFIDENTIAL

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AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH. ERALP ALSO OBSERVED THAT WHEN HE HAD SERVED IN BELGRADE SEVERAL YEARS AGO HE HAD INITIATED JUST SUCH A REGULAR CONSULTATION AMONG AMBASSADORS FROM NATO COUNTRIES. DANISH PERMREP (SVART) SUPPORTED ERALP RECALLING THAT WHEN HE SERVED IN MOSCOW NATO AMBASSADORS NEVER MET WITH ANY REGULARITY. SVART CONTRASTED THIS BEHAVIOUR WITH THAT OF THE EC-NINE MISSIONS WHO MEET REGULARLY ONCE A MONTH. DE ROSE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR COORDINATION ON THE SUBJECT OF SOVIET DIPLOMATIC TRAVEL REGULATIONS TO TAKE PLACE IN MOSCOW BUT HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE CONSPICUOUS OR OSTENTATIOUS IF ALL 15 ENVOYS MET ON A REGULAR BASIS. DE ROSE WONDERED ABOUT THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH VISIBILITY. SVART AND HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) REPLIED THAT THE EC-NINE MEET ONCE A MONTH AND IN EVERY OTHER CAPITAL AND THERE SEEMED TO BE NO REASON WHY NATO AMBASSADORS COULD NOT SIMILARLY MEET. MENZIES (CANADA) UNDERTOOK TO ADVISE AMBASSADOR FORD OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS DISCUSSION AND TO URGE ALLIED AMBASSADORS IN MOSCOW TO WORK OUT APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS REGARD.

4. FORMAT OF AND ATTENDANCE AT DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL.

A. RECALLING THE DISCUSSION AT THE PERMREPS LUNCHEON ON OCTOBER 22 (SEE USNATO 5990 NOTAL), PANSA, DE STAERCKE AND PECK SPOKE IN FAVOR OF INCLUDING A DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST ON THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL AGENDA, CITING RECENT DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE ARAB

SUMMIT IN RABAT AND THE POSSIBLE SPRING REOPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL AS PARTICULARLY CURRENT TOPICS. IN REFERRING TO THE SUEZ CANAL, DE STARECKE SAID IT MIGHT ALSO BE INTERESTING FOR MINISTERS TO HEAR THE LATEST U.S./UK PLANS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT OF A NAVAL BASE AT DIEGO GARCIA. MCAULIFFE SAID THE U.S. WOULD HOPE THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD ADDRESS THREE MAIN THEMES IN DECEMBER: (1) EAST-WEST RELATIONS TO INCLUDE DETENTE, MBFR, CSCE AND POSSIBLY SALT; (2) THE MEDITERRANEAN REPORT WHICH INEVITABLY LEADS ONE TO CONSIDERATION OF THE EVOLVING SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST; AND (3) CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND THE EFFECT THAT THEY ARE HAVING ON PRESENT AND FUTURE DEFENSE SPENDING. MCAULIFFE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE U.S. WOULD HOPE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL GATHER FOR THEIR PRIVATE MEETING ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 12 WITH MINISTERS AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES PLUS ONE IN ATTENDANCE.

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B. ON THE SUBJECT OF ATTENDANCE BY FINANCE MINISTERS AT THE MINISTERIALS, AMBASSADOR FISCHBACH (LUXEMBOURG) SAID FONMIN THORN AND CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU HAD DISCUSSED THIS IDEA AND HAD CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS UNDERSIRABLE. ITALIAN PERMREP (CATALANO) REPORTED THAT HIS FOREIGN OFFICE AND MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DID NOT WISH THE ITALIAN FINANCE MINISTER TO ATTEND THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. HARTOGH SAID THE DUTCH FINANCE MINISTER WAS PREPARED TO ATTEND IF HIS COLLEAGUES CAME BUT ONLY TO DISCUSS THE LEVEL OF DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. PECK (UK) SAID THAT AT THE SENIOR LEVEL IN LONDON THERE WAS NO ENTHUSIASM FOR CHANCELLOR OF EXCHEQUER HEALEY'S ATTENDANCE AT THE MINISTERIALS. MENZIES SAID OTTAWA BELIEVES THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS AND DEFENSE MINISTERS WERE GENERALLY WELL EQUIPPED TO DISCUSS MOST OF THE ISSUES WHICH AROSE DURING NATO MINISTERIALS. OTTAWA HAS NO INTENTION OF ALLOWING NATO TO COMPETE IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD WITH THE OECD, WITH THE GROUP OF 20, OR WITH THE ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP. CANADA DOES FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD DO MORE TO IDENTIFY THE SIGNIFICANCE IN TERMS OF EAST-WEST BALANCE OF POWER, OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF INFLATION, MONETARY RECYCLING, PETROLEUM PRICING AND SIMILAR ISSUES. HE SAID THE NAC ITSELF WOULD NEED TO EXTRACT POLITICAL LESSONS FROM THE EXCELLENT REPORTS PREPARED BY ECONADS. ONCE CONCLUSIONS, EVEN TENTATIVE ONES, HAD BEEN REACHED ON THESE SUBJECTS, IT MIGHT THEN BE DESIRABLE AND USEFUL TO HAVE A SESSION WITH FINANCE MINISTERS IN ATTENDANCE. PANSA THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO REFER TO POLADS OR SENIOR POLADS SOME OF THE SORK OF ECONADS AND TO ASK THEM TO DEVELOP A POLITICAL ANALYSIS. DE STAERCKE THOUGHT THE ALLIANCE NEEDED A GREAT DEAL MORE THAN THAT. HE SAID THE ALLIES NEED TO SURVEY NOW THE ALLOCATION OF THEIR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN TERMS OF DETENTE, AND IN THE LIGHT OF ITS LIKELY FUTURE EVOLUTION. THE DEAN EXPANDED ON THIS THEME OF THE NECESSITY TO MAINTAIN MILITARY AND POLITICAL EQUILIBRIUM BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AND TO PROCEED WITH THE DETENTE PROCESS WHILE DEFENDING THOSE SOCIAL PRINCIPLES ESSENTIAL TO WESTERN LIFE WITHOUT RESORT TO MILITARY

ARMS. KRAPF SAID HE WAS STILL FACED WITH THE DILEMA HE HAD OUTLINED AT THE LUNCH LAST WEEK, WITH HIS CHANCELLOR FAVORING ATTENDANCE BY FINMINS AND WITH HIS FONMIN RELUCTANT TO COME AND ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW MANY OTHER FINANCE MINISTERS WOULD COME. KRAPF URGED THAT PANSA PROCEED ALONG THE LINES PROPOSED BY MENZIES AND ELABORATED BY DE STARCKE TO SEE WHAT ISSUES COULD BE PRODUCED FOR REVIEW BY THE COUNCIL. HE THOUGHT A USEFUL
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STUDY ALONG THESE LINES MIGHT PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF NATO FINANCE MINISTERS ALONE. KRAPF THOUGHT SUCH A GATHERING WOULD SUFFICIENTLY CORRESPOND TO THE THINKING OF FEDERAL CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND HE THEREFORE HOPED THAT HIS COLLEAGUES WOULD LOOK WITH FAVOR UPON IT.

5. OCTOBER 24 MEETING OF THE NAC WITH PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU. MENZIES EXPRESSED HIS DEEP THANKS TO THE SYG AND TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THEIR CONDUCT DURING THE OCTOBER 24 SPECIAL NAC ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU. HE SAID THE PROCEEDINGS HAD GONE BETTER THAN HE HAD EVER DARED TO HOPE. PRIMIN TRUDEAU AND HIS CLOSEST ADVISORS TOLD MENZIES AFTER THE MEETING THEY WERE DEEPLY AND FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE COMPETENCE AND INTELLECTUAL CAPABILITY OF THE COUNCIL IN PERMANENT SESSION. MENZIES SAID THAT COUNCIL MEETING HAD CAUSED PRIMIN TRUDEAU TO REVISE HIS PREVIOUS HELD OPINION ABOUT THE NEED AND DESIRABILITY OF DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS IN NATO.
MCAULIFFE

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